



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

For Immediate Release:

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14th Street Bridge Replacement Project ...

Techwood Drive, 14th Street Ramp to Close; Reopen Summer 2009

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Transportation today announced upcoming road closures and detours related to the construction projects in the Downtown Connector corridor that includes resurfacing I-75/85 in summer 2008 and replacement of the 14th Street Bridge to be completed in spring 2010.

The following closures will affect motorists traveling into Midtown Atlanta from I-85 southbound and I-75 southbound:

- I-85 southbound ramp to 14th and 10th streets will close on **February 9th**.
 - Motorists should exit I-85 at 17th Street (Exit 84) and utilize the 17th Street bridge to Spring Street to access Midtown and locations west of I-75/85.
- I-75 southbound ramp to 14th and 10th streets from Exit 250 will close on **February 9th**.
 - Motorists should exit I-75 at Northside Drive (Exit 252) and turn left onto 10th Street to access Midtown.
- Techwood Drive between 16th and 10th streets will close on **February 9th**.

These closures are a necessary part of the ongoing project to replace 14th Street Bridge over the Downtown Connector relieving congestion at the 14th Street interchange. The bridge replacement project also feature two new exit ramps from the interstate; southbound to 10th Street and northbound to 17th Street. The estimated cost of the project is \$88.5 million.

Motorists should be aware that this closure is only one of several traffic adjustments and street closings required to complete the construction work. This work is expected to significantly impact traffic congestion in Midtown.

- In summer 2008, 14th Street Bridge and its adjacent roadway will be closed to traffic. Motorists will be detoured to the 17th Street Bridge once the 14th Street Bridge closes. 14th Street and the 14th Street Bridge are expected to reopen by summer 2010.
- Traffic on the Downtown Connector will be paced and lanes shifted to accommodate utility and other associated work throughout the course of the project.
- Williams Street, which closed to traffic in October 2007 will remain closed through summer 2009.

Additionally in March 2008 Georgia DOT will begin resurfacing approximately five miles of the Downtown Connector between University Avenue and 10th Street. The project includes resurfacing northbound and southbound lanes and is expected to be completed by November 2008. During construction, lane closures will be in place overnights Monday through Thursday with continuous closures on weekends starting Friday night and concluding Monday morning.

Traffic delays throughout Downtown, especially in Midtown are to be expected. Commuters should seriously consider mass transit, car or van pooling, and flexible work schedules. Motorists should allow additional travel time and/or choose alternate routes during these construction projects. For information on commuting alternatives, contact The Clean Air Campaign at www.cleanaircampaign.com/

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to bad weather. Callers can also reach live operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org. Georgia 511 – we'll get you there.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our website (www.dot.state.ga.us).

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